

Del Norte County Economic Forecast

Del Norte is California's northern-most coastal county. Redwood National Park and other state parks located in the county are home to some of the world's tallest trees. Vacationers come from around the world to visit the giant redwoods of Del Norte County.

The population of Del Norte County in January of 2003 was 27,850. Crescent City is the only incorporated area of the county, with 7,325 residents. By the year 2010, Del Norte's population is projected to grow to 30,400, an increase of 10 percent over the current population.

The county's unemployment rate in 2002 was 9.3 percent, compared to a statewide annual average unemployment rate of 6.6 percent. With tourism and recreation as vital factors in the local economy, Del Norte County is more likely to have seasonal variations in employment patterns.

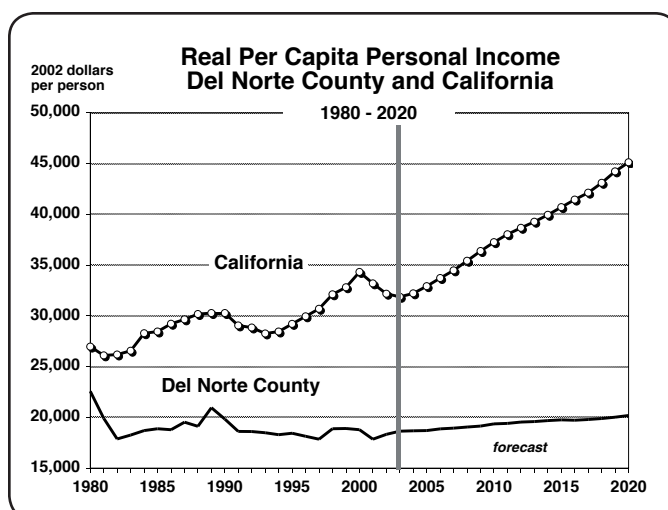
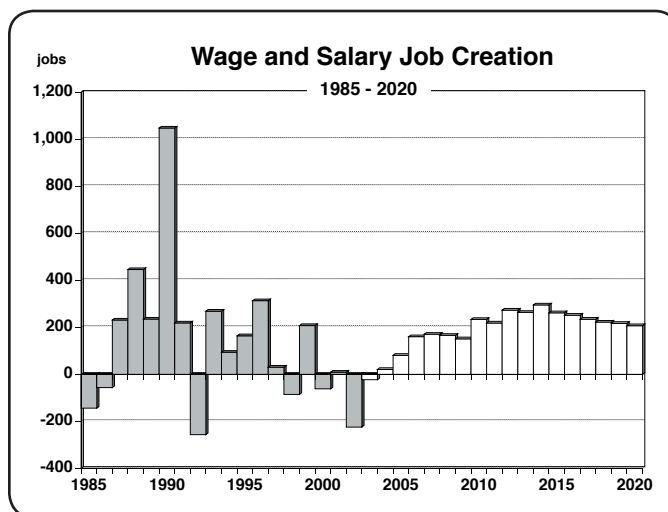
Over the last decade, environmental constraints have changed the job market in many Northern California counties. Historically jobs were concentrated in the timber industry, but that sector has been subject to substantial downsizing in recent years. Faced with continuing declines in the economy, the county brought in Pelican Bay State Prison in 1990, which now accounts for over 1,000 jobs. The prison is the county's largest employer and government is the predominant industry. The government sector represents 44 percent of the total employment in the county.

Combined, the retail trade and services industries account for almost 40 percent of the total employment, validating the strength of tourism and recreation as key economic activities in the local economy.

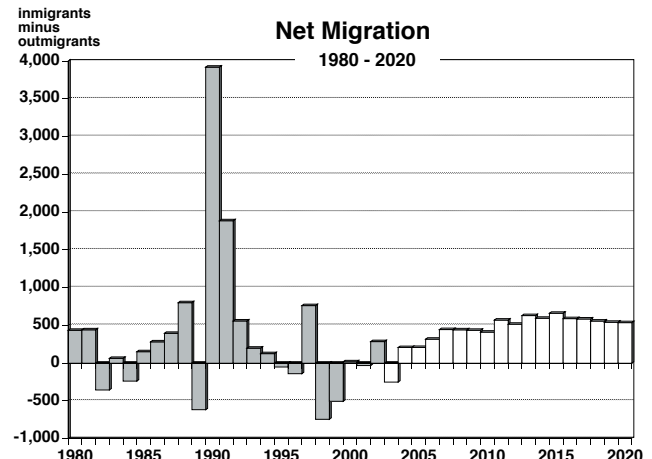
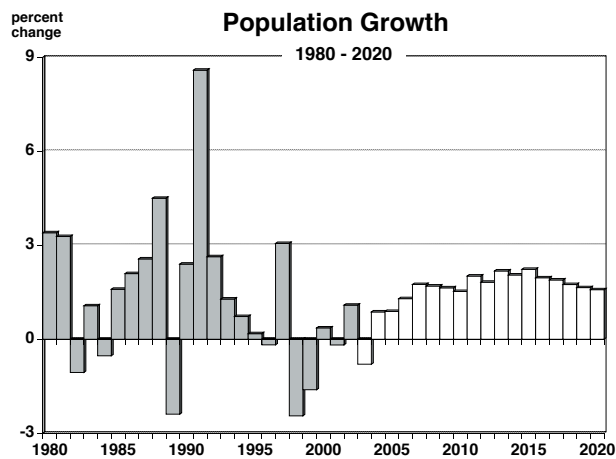
Consequently, three sectors of the economy (government, retail trade and services) comprise nearly 85 percent of the jobs in Del Norte County, and these three sectors will remain the engines of growth for the foreseeable future. Between 2003 and 2008, all of the 600 new jobs forecast for Del Norte County are in services, retail trade, and government.

Forecast Highlights

- Total non-farm employment is forecast to grow 1.6 percent per year between 2003 and 2008. The principal sectors of growth are government, services, and retail trade.



- Inflation-adjusted per capita income is projected to rise an average of 0.4 percent per year over the next 5 years. Total income (inflation adjusted) in the county grows at a 1.7 percent rate per year for the next 5 years.
- Population growth accelerates over the next 5 years, averaging 1.3 percent growth per year. This compares to the slightly negative growth in population that prevailed between 1997 and 2002. A greater number of births (due to a rising population in the fertile age cohorts) and positive net migration are responsible for the higher rate of population growth projected during the decade. Net migration averages 228 people per year between 2003 and 2008.

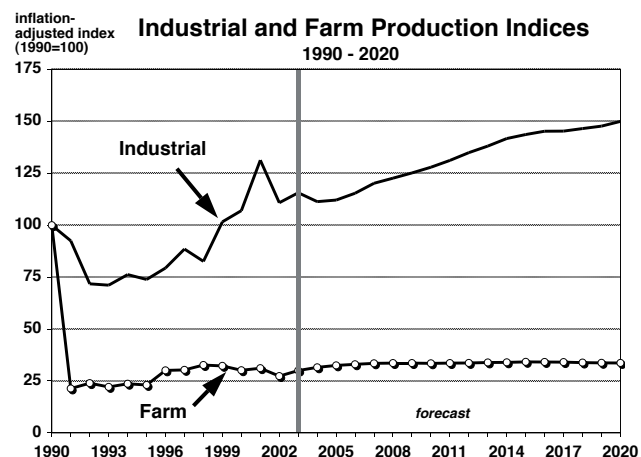
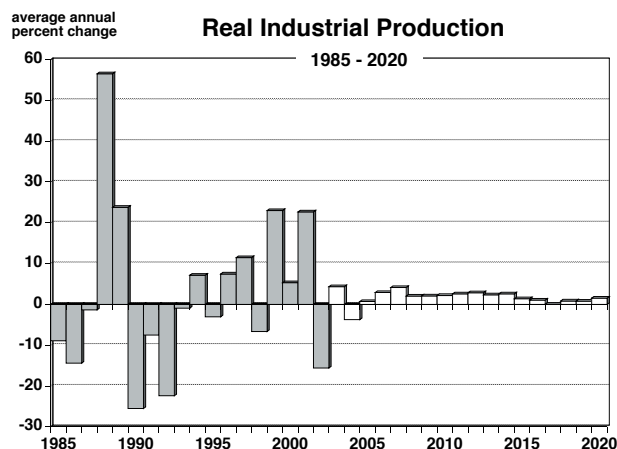


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1995-2002 History, 2003-2020 Forecast

	July Population (people)	Net Migration (people)	Registered Vehicles (thousands)	Households (thousands)	New Homes Permitted (homes)	Retail Sales (millions)	Personal Income (millions)	Real Per Capita Income (dollars)	Farm Crop Value (millions)	Industrial Production (millions)
1995	27,850	-50	22.7	8.9	97	\$94.8	\$403.3	\$18,441	\$19.5	\$123.4
1996	27,800	-138	23.3	9.0	51	\$98.4	\$405.0	\$18,134	\$26.1	\$132.6
1997	28,650	763	21.9	9.2	45	\$100.4	\$424.9	\$17,849	\$27.1	\$147.8
1998	27,950	-742	22.4	9.3	50	\$101.1	\$452.6	\$18,885	\$30.2	\$138.0
1999	27,500	-505	22.6	9.4	35	\$106.9	\$464.5	\$18,899	\$31.1	\$169.7
2000	27,600	19	23.5	9.2	44	\$114.5	\$484.1	\$18,785	\$30.3	\$178.7
2001	27,550	-31	24.7	9.2	56	\$119.6	\$483.7	\$17,845	\$33.0	\$219.3
2002	27,850	287	25.2	9.3	79	\$125.2	\$510.4	\$18,328	\$29.4	\$185.0
2003	27,628	-250	25.6	9.3	69	\$128.3	\$528.1	\$18,645	\$33.2	\$193.1
2004	27,869	208	26.0	9.4	75	\$133.0	\$548.5	\$18,677	\$35.8	\$185.9
2005	28,117	209	26.4	9.5	82	\$138.4	\$569.6	\$18,705	\$37.9	\$187.2
2006	28,482	319	26.8	9.5	85	\$144.3	\$598.0	\$18,867	\$39.6	\$192.7
2007	28,980	446	27.2	9.6	90	\$150.5	\$626.8	\$18,942	\$41.2	\$200.6
2008	29,473	442	27.7	9.7	88	\$157.1	\$658.0	\$19,052	\$42.5	\$204.7
2009	29,957	436	28.1	9.8	86	\$163.9	\$689.5	\$19,143	\$43.5	\$209.0
2010	30,414	412	28.5	9.8	83	\$171.5	\$727.8	\$19,363	\$44.6	\$213.6
2011	31,027	571	28.9	9.9	88	\$179.6	\$765.6	\$19,414	\$46.1	\$219.1
2012	31,593	517	29.2	10.0	88	\$188.3	\$807.3	\$19,540	\$47.4	\$225.3
2013	32,282	630	29.6	10.1	92	\$197.5	\$850.9	\$19,583	\$49.2	\$230.6
2014	32,945	595	29.9	10.2	92	\$206.9	\$897.0	\$19,683	\$50.7	\$236.6
2015	33,680	662	30.2	10.2	96	\$216.9	\$945.7	\$19,758	\$52.4	\$239.9
2016	34,341	591	30.4	10.3	94	\$227.4	\$989.8	\$19,725	\$53.8	\$242.5
2017	34,992	586	30.7	10.4	91	\$238.4	\$1,042.0	\$19,795	\$55.2	\$242.6
2018	35,604	558	30.9	10.5	88	\$249.5	\$1,095.1	\$19,886	\$56.5	\$244.6
2019	36,190	543	31.1	10.6	86	\$261.1	\$1,151.3	\$20,018	\$57.8	\$246.6
2020	36,763	537	31.3	10.6	87	\$273.1	\$1,210.8	\$20,191	\$59.2	\$250.4

- The number of residential unit permits forecast for the 2003 to 2008 period averages 81 per year, an increase over the number of housing units permitted between 1997 and 2002. During that period, the average per year was 51 homes.



Total Wage & Salary	Farm	Mining & Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation, Utilities	Wholesale, Retail Trade	Finance, Real Estate	Services	Government
-----employment (jobs)-----								
7,471	478	200	489	228	1,690	159	1,414	2,813
7,784	485	173	537	245	1,660	156	1,543	2,985
7,815	457	192	532	257	1,569	151	1,633	3,025
7,730	439	199	458	251	1,498	144	1,677	3,064
7,938	449	204	434	265	1,531	143	1,768	3,143
7,876	448	203	440	245	1,518	128	1,568	3,327
7,885	412	336	370	236	1,525	127	1,470	3,410
7,661	410	281	270	230	1,430	140	1,510	3,390
7,638	410	304	242	228	1,391	141	1,489	3,434
7,659	410	281	233	226	1,386	142	1,489	3,492
7,740	410	275	227	225	1,400	143	1,503	3,557
7,900	410	278	224	224	1,426	145	1,530	3,662
8,071	410	284	221	223	1,458	147	1,566	3,761
8,237	410	290	217	222	1,494	149	1,606	3,847
8,388	411	291	210	222	1,531	151	1,652	3,921
8,622	410	290	207	221	1,570	153	1,701	4,069
8,840	411	291	206	220	1,609	156	1,752	4,196
9,114	411	294	206	219	1,651	158	1,802	4,374
9,377	411	297	206	218	1,693	161	1,850	4,543
9,673	411	300	206	218	1,736	163	1,896	4,743
9,935	411	303	206	217	1,780	165	1,941	4,912
10,186	411	305	206	216	1,824	168	1,986	5,071
10,421	411	304	205	216	1,866	170	2,031	5,218
10,643	411	301	205	215	1,907	172	2,077	5,355
10,860	411	298	205	214	1,948	175	2,122	5,488
11,067	411	295	205	213	1,990	177	2,166	5,610

